## JOHN DEERE DUBUQUE WORKS

(Dubuque, Iowa)

# **GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

Deere & Company site is located next to the Mississippi River on 285 acres mainly in Section 35, T90N, R2E, Dubuque County, Iowa. It includes lot Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 10 of the Plat of the John Deere Tractor Works, Peru and Dubuque Townships, Dubuque County, Iowa. The site was entered on the Registry in October 1989. A Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study were completed in 1988. The Record of Decision was achieved in September 1988. The Remedial Design Report was completed in September 1990.

A RCRA Facility Assessment of the facility was initiated in 1993.

## **SITE CLASSIFICATION**

In 2001 the site was reclassified as "d" Site Properly Closed Requires Continued Management.

#### TYPE AND QUANTITY OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

The John Deere Dubuque Works (JDDW) has manufactured heavy construction equipment at the site since 1946. During the first 28 years of operation, both hazardous and non-hazardous wastes were disposed in a landfill on the north end of the site. The hazardous materials included over 3,000 tons of paint wastes (paint sludge, filters, and stripping. Accidental releases from tanks and pipelines have been another source of contamination at the site. The most serious incident was a 1980 diesel oil spill. About 200,000 gallons of diesel oil were lost through a ruptured pipe under the middle of the plant buildings. The contamination was most severe in the area of the diesel oil spill and has since diminished substantially.

## SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

A Remedial Investigation and other earlier investigations conducted at the site have shown the alluvial aquifer beneath JDDW is contaminated with organic compounds and metals. The soils of the site show broadly dispersed, low levels of contamination that are concentrated near the surface. The contaminants found in the old landfill were lead, arsenic, and cadmium. Currently, the operation of on-site production wells in the alluvial aquifer prevents off-site migration of contaminated groundwater.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT, MONITORING AND REMEDIAL ACTIONS

The EPA is the lead agency for the site. Remedial action includes:

- providing an alternative potable water supply for the plant;
- continued plant production well pumping for on-site containment of contaminated groundwater;
- recovery and treatment of materials from the area of the 1980 diesel oil spill (completed);
- biennial groundwater monitoring;
- quarterly measurement of groundwater levels, river stage and production well pumpage; and
- a contingency plan to assure contamination does not migrate off-site in the event of a plant shutdown.

Five-year reviews were conducted by EPA in 1995, 1998 and 2003 all of which found the site remedy to continue to be protective. The fourth five-year review was released in August of 2008. It concluded the site continues to be protective of human health and the environment.

